

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING FIRST LIEUTENANT
WILLIAM C. RYAN, JR.

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2017

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an American hero from New Jersey's Fifth District, First Lieutenant William C. Ryan, Jr. Lieutenant Ryan served our country as an aviator in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. For his heroism in combat, Lieutenant Ryan was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Purple Heart. Lieutenant Ryan grew up in Bogota, New Jersey, and was an athlete and community leader at St. Cecilia's High School. Nicknamed "Rhino" for his toughness and composure, Lieutenant Ryan was a stern fighter and devoted family man. "Billy," as he was known to his friends, attended St. Francis College, where he met Judy, who would become his wife.

Upon graduation, Billy answered the call to serve in the United States Marine Corps. His outstanding character, determination, and willingness to serve his country, made him a natural fit for flight school where he trained to become a Marine Aviator. While deployed in Vietnam, Lieutenant Ryan took on enemy fire and was once rescued in the South China Sea. On May 11, 1969, Lieutenant Ryan faced heavy enemy fire and was shot down again. He was pronounced dead on May 13, 1969.

On the same day that her husband was downed by heavy fire, Judy packed her bags eagerly awaiting a planned vacation with her husband. Their son Michael was just a few hours shy of his first birthday. For forty-seven years, Lieutenant Ryan, who is a hero, never received the proper burial he deserved. In 1990, investigators recovered Lieutenant Ryan's aircraft seat from the crash landing, and decades later, investigators recovered his remains in January 2016, bringing much-needed peace to his family. With the hero's welcoming that the Ryan family deserved, Billy was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery, on May 10, 2017.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the heroism of First Lieutenant William C. Ryan, Jr. and the Ryan family. His sacrifice, patriotism, and valor represent the best of New Jersey and our country.

COMMEMORATING 50 YEARS OF
SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2017

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Southwest Wisconsin Technical College for providing opportunities for success through education for 50 years.

Before the first shovel of dirt was unearthed in a cornfield outside of Fennimore no one could have imagined what would someday stand there almost 50 years later; Wisconsin's No. 1 and the nation's No. 3 rated two-year college in 2017.

Founded in 1967, Southwest Tech is located in Fennimore, Wisconsin. Reflecting the job demand of the time, degree programs started with Auto-Tractor Mechanics and Welding programs, as well as Account Clerk and Clerk-Typists classes. As the economy changed, the college added degrees in Criminal Justice, Nursing, Physical Therapy Assistant, Midwifery, Web and Graphic Design, and Network Specialist.

The first graduation was in May 1969, with 104 graduates representing six programs. The May 2017 graduation had 366 graduates representing 41 programs. Southwest Tech has graduated 26,000 students in its history.

Southwest Tech is also a major employer in Grant County employing 324 people and working with numerous businesses in a nine county area. It is one of 16 two-year public open access institutions within the Wisconsin Technical College System. The college serves 3,800 square miles including 30 school districts in a five-county district of Crawford, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette, Richland and portions of Dane, Green, Sauk and Vernon Counties.

The college is currently under the leadership of President, Dr. Jason Wood. The first president of the college was Conrad Mayer, followed by Ronald Anderson, Dr. Richard Rogers, Dr. Karen Knox and Dr. Duane Ford.

Now, in 2017, Southwest Tech is proud to celebrate the many ways the College's mission and its graduates positively impact southwest Wisconsin. Thousands of Southwest Tech employees, partners, and supporters deliver excellence to their students, businesses, and communities. Because of their tireless efforts, they have forever changed the lives of those the college serves. Southwest Tech's 50th Anniversary is an exciting opportunity to reflect on the past, celebrate the present and move forward with a renewed dedication to students and southwest Wisconsin.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the past and present faculty, staff, and students on 50 years of valuable and skillful higher education. Thanks to the efforts of current administration and those that have come before, Southwest Tech will continue to lead the way into the future.

HONORING THE INDO-AMERICAN
HERITAGE MUSEUM GALA IN
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS ON SEP-
TEMBER 16TH

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2017

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the Indo-American Heritage Mu-

seum in Chicago, Illinois as they celebrate their annual Gala.

The Indo-American Heritage Museum, located in the heart of Chicago's Indian American commercial district, is an inclusive, community-based institution where visitors can better understand and experience the cultural, historic, and contemporary development of millions of Americans of Indian origin.

The mission of the Indo-American Heritage Museum is to promote understanding of the heritage, culture and diversity of Indian Americans, preserve their history and share their contributions to the fabric of American life. Since 1994, IAHM has collaborated with other institutions in Chicago, such as the Field Museum and the Chicago Opera, to promote Indian culture and heritage, and it has created hundreds of presentations for students at K-12 schools and universities.

The 2017 Gala coincides with the showing of the Smithsonian's Beyond Bollywood exhibit in partnership with the Field Museum. The exhibition explores the heritage, daily experience and numerous, diverse contributions that Indian immigrants and Indian Americans have made to shaping the United States.

Beyond the broader impact that IAHM has, it is also personal to me. I was raised to be proud of being American, and I make sure my children understand every day to be proud of the United States. At the same time as we embrace our identities, we never forget from where we and our families came.

Today, India stands as a beacon for what can be achieved. Home to more than 1.3 billion people, India boasts the world's largest middle class and one of the world's biggest democracies. Meanwhile, India's reach extends far beyond her borders. Today, there are five Indian-American members of Congress including myself, and India has become one of the United States' largest trading partners. I see India's cultural influence every day in the U.S. Capitol, and in my very own district in Illinois.

I honor the Indo-American Heritage Museum as they celebrate their annual Gala.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNCONVENTIONAL RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION'S 27TH AMENDMENT

HON. ROGER WILLIAMS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2017

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gregory Watson of Texas' 25th Congressional District, and to recognize the 25th Anniversary this year of the unconventional ratification of the 27th Amendment to the Constitution in 1992. And just days from now, September 17, 2017, will mark the 230th Anniversary of our Constitution's drafting in Philadelphia during the year 1787.

The 27th Amendment is brief and to the point: "No law, varying the compensation for

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